

Ground cleared for first Afghan MOUT site

Story and photos by
Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – Office windows and tent frames on Bagram Air Base shook under the blow of another successful ordnance demolition Friday, as the 705th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, Fort Polk, La., was one step closer to completely clearing the way for the first Military Operations in Urban Terrain Site in Afghanistan.

The project which has required most of the 705th's time and manpower for over a week, has been in the planning stages for months and is now one of the main priorities in the way of training for future military operations.

"The MOUT site, which will occupy over two acres of terrain, was once a Russian ammunition supply point on the



Thousands of peices of ordnance found at the old South Russian ammunition supply point go up in smoke after a successful demolition Friday. The ASP is being cleared to make way for the first U.S. Military Operations on Urban Terrain site in Afghanistan.

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Americans have security commitment to future

By Kathleen T. Rhem
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Americans have a commitment to future generations to keep this country secure, President Bush said at a defense plant in California Friday.

"And we will keep that commitment," he said. "We have made progress, but there is more to do."

He outlined many of the government's efforts to ensure that security during a speech at United Defense Industries, in Mountain View, not long after leaving the Navy aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln at San Diego.

Bush had flown aboard the ship Thursday and addressed the nation from her deck, as the Lincoln and her 5,000 crew members steamed the last leg of a 10-month deployment at sea. The president spent the night on the ship before she stop briefly in San Diego en route to her homeport in Washington state.

"I was so proud to be with those men and women who wear our

nation's uniform," Bush said at the plant. "Their morale is high. They have served our nation well, and this country is proud of them."

Regarding the war on terrorism, Bush spoke of how U.S. forces led a battle in Afghanistan that "destroyed one of the most barbaric regimes in the history of mankind."

"That regime no longer exists," the president said of the Taliban. "Many al-Qaida leaders no longer exist, and the (terrorist) training camps no longer exist." He said that nearly one-half of al-Qaida's senior leaders were in custody.

In Iraq, the president observed, American and other coalition forces drove from power a regime that was an ally to al-Qaida, a source of funding for terrorists and, it was feared, a potential source for weapons of mass destruction.

That's not a concern now, Bush said, "because the regime that used to be in Iraq is no longer!"

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



U.S. troops detected nerve and blister agents in these drums found in Bayji, Iraq, but further tests could not substantiate the earlier results.

As war ends, hunt for WMDs in Iraq goes on

BAGHDAD, Iraq — When U.N. inspectors raided the home of Iraqi nuclear scientist Faliq Hassan in January, they discovered nuclear research documents.

The inspectors were acting on a tip from British intelligence. For the first time, the team unearthed something unexpected, triggering the anticipation that Iraq's suspected weapons of mass destruction secrets were on the verge of being exposed.

Iraqi authorities held a news conference in which Hassan gave international reporters the impression he was fighting for his life.

Saddam's regime is in shreds but Hassan — free from the pressure he admits he felt from Iraqi authorities — still says he was telling the truth.

"As I said at my press conference and I am saying now and I say for sure, this thing belonged to the nuclear research center. This was academic work," he told CNN. "I didn't hide anything, I didn't hide my work. We were very clear, we very transparent in our declaration."

Hassan is not the only Iraqi scientist to say he wasn't lying.

Amer Al Sa'adi, the scientific adviser to Saddam Hussein, has turned himself in to U.S. authorities. Yet he also is sticking to his original assertion that Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction programs.

The U.S.-trained former head of Iraq's biological warfare program, Nassir Hindawi, says fear of retribution from remnants of

Saddam Hussein's Baath Party stops him from surrendering to U.S. troops searching for him, but CNN found him and interviewed him.

"In every street there are members of the Baath Socialist Party that are probably hoping and dreaming of getting power again," he said. "They have weapons and arms ... and so nobody knows how the country is going to be in the future."

Hindawi admits he lied to inspectors until his cover was blown in the mid-1990s. Since then, however, he says he has been telling the truth.

"As far as biological weapons are concerned, there is no need to search for that because the toxins were crude proteins," he said.

According to U.N. inspectors, Iraq had several thousand scientists and engineers like Hindawi who were involved in Iraq's WMD programs. Not knowing where all of them are and what they are doing is raising concerns about post-war efforts to control what may be left of Iraq's weapons programs.

Man dies from gunshot amid church arsenic probe

NEW SWEDEN, Maine — A man found shot in his home on the day police canvassed residents for clues in a church arsenic poisoning case has died, hospital officials said Friday.

Daniel Bondeson, 53, died at 6:30 p.m., shortly after he arrived at the Cary Medical Center in Caribou, Maine, hospital spokesman Bill Flagg said.

Police responded to an emergency call from Bondeson's farm in the afternoon and found him with a bullet wound, said Stephen McCausland, a spokesman for the Maine Department of Public Safety.

Officials did not know the details of how Bondeson was shot but said he was not a suspect in the church poisoning.

"A lot of answers we don't have tonight," McCausland said. "We'll be working throughout the night and tomorrow to try to find out."

Lt. Dennis Appleton of the Maine State Police said earlier that the gunshot appeared

to be self-inflicted. However, officials said, further investigation is needed to determine whether it was accidental or caused by someone else.



Authorities described Aron Ralston as an avid outdoorsman in exceptional physical condition.

Climber amputates his arm, hikes to safety

MOAB, Utah — A Colorado climber amputated his own arm Thursday, five days after becoming pinned by a boulder, and he was hiking to safety when he was spotted by searchers, authorities said.

Aron Ralston, 27, of Aspen, was in serious condition late Thursday at a hospital in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Ralston was climbing Saturday in Blue John Canyon, adjacent to Canyonlands National Park in far southeastern Utah, when a 200-pound boulder fell on him, pinning his right arm, authorities said.

He ran out of water on Tuesday and on Thursday morning, he decided that his survival required drastic action.

Using his pocketknife, he amputated his arm below the elbow and applied a tourniquet and administered first aid. He then rigged anchors, fixed a rope and rappelled to the canyon floor.

He hiked downstream and was spotted about 3 p.m. by a Utah Public Safety Helicopter. The search for Ralston had begun the same morning, after authorities were notified he was four days overdue reporting for work.

Ralston was described by authorities as an avid outdoorsman in exceptional physical condition. They said he was known to have climbed 49 of Colorado's major peaks.

MOUT, from Page A1

South side of the air base,” said Maj. Bill Guevremont, operations officer, Facility Engineer Team, Combined Joint Task Force-180.

“EOD has played a big part in preparing the site for construction by removing thousands of pieces of ordnance in the past week,” he added.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Brown, EOD section noncommissioned officer, the EOD team has cleared over 50,000 pieces of ordnance weighing more than 30,000 pounds since Monday, and their work is still not complete.

“The site we were tasked to clear is about 600 by 300 meters in size, and the entire area was part of the old Russian ASP,” said Brown.

“Between 12 and 13 of our 14-man team are out there by 7 a.m. daily removing ordnance and doing demolitions to make the site ready for construction as soon as possible,” he added.

The multi-million dollar MOUT site scheduled to be completed by mid-June, is expected to be a very important and essential tool in training infantry and security forces to successfully seek out remnants of al-Qaida and Taliban forces.

“The training site is designed to mimic that of a common Afghan compound or village,” said Guevremont. “The site will contain hard-structured buildings with mud walls and courtyards much like the surrounding villages so soldiers will get the most realistic training possible.”

Other features of the MOUT site will assist the soldiers in conducting a concise post exercise after action review.

“While the training exercise takes place, it will be recorded on videotape so the soldiers and their leaders can

later reference it to see what they did right and what they can do better,” said Guevremont. “It’s much like the urban training exercises at the Joint Readiness Training Center in the states, only on a smaller scale.”

Even though most infantry and security forces receive urban combat training prior to deploying to a combat zone, Guevremont said a MOUT site in country is better for training and skill enhancement.

“A MOUT site located in a combat zone helps to give a more realistic affect to the training,” said Guevremont. “Also, soldiers don’t have to go back to the states to receive urban training. They can do it while they’re here to keep up on their combat skills.”

Once the MOUT site is complete, it will serve as the main urban training site for troops deployed in Afghanistan for about three years.

“We don’t know how much longer U.S. troops are going to occupy Afghanistan, so the site is only expected to last three years,” said Guevremont. “However, the site will help to enhance the quality and success rate of combat missions which are still ongoing for however long we’re here.”



Above: Staff Sgt. Jeff Wade, response team, 705th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, Fort Polk, La., connects C-4 to the ordnance found at the South Russian ammunition supply point for detonation.

Below: Since the 705th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company began clearing the South Russian ammunition supply point Monday, they have found over 54,000 pieces of ordnance weighing more than 30,000 pounds.



MWR bring 'cyber home' to K2 troops



Pfc. Latris Deloach, Joint Logistics Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., surfs the internet Monday after the grand opening of the Internet Cafe at Camp Stronghold Freedom, Uzbekistan.

Story and photo by
Spc. Travis Edwards
1st COSCOM PAO

CAMP STRONGHOLD FREEDOM, Uzbekistan — Soldiers and airmen stationed at Camp Stronghold Freedom, Uzbekistan, now have a little piece of home that came in the form of an Internet Café courtesy of the Morale Welfare and Recreation office, according to Mitch Thompson, base MWR coordinator.

“With the equipment we have here, ser-

vice members will be able to email, chat and surf the internet any time they want,” said Thompson. “These systems link troops who do not have a desk or internet connection to their families back home.”

The café, which celebrated its grand opening Monday with a ribbon cutting ceremony, is made up of 12 computer systems, a dedicated server and networked printer.

The Café’s infrastructure was designed and built from the ground up by the automation section of the Logistical Task Force 46th, Fort Bragg, N.C.

“We setup two servers and created a new domain for the users,” said Staff Sgt. Stacy Beavers, 659th Maintenance Company, LTF 46th. “The computers are set up with limited privileges so the users do not accidentally mess up the system by deleting anything. It is very user friendly.”

The café is temporarily manned by soldiers from the automation section. The MWR office will soon take over the project and eventually keep the café open 24-hours a day, said Beavers.

Users will have to show their military identification card and sign a user’s agreement and policy letter before being assigned a workstation.

“We setup a unique login for every user,” said Spc. Michael Masa, 659th Maint. Co., LTF 46th.

“Once a profile is established the user can download pictures and create files on their desktop which will stay the same no matter what computer they log on to. It uses roaming profiles. So, users do not have to wait for specific computers to see their work. This saves time and makes it easier and more comfortable for the user,” he added.

“The Internet Café is great for soldiers and airmen,” said Staff Sgt. Cory Najera, LTF 46th. “This endeavor raises morale even higher and connects today’s warfighter with his or her family and friends 24 hours a day.”

COMMITMENT, from Page A1

These successes can be attributed to the “bravery and skill” of America’s military service members.

“By their courage, our nation is more secure. By their skill and sacrifice, Iraq and Afghanistan are now free,” Bush said. “The people who serve our country deserve our gratitude, and they deserve the finest equipment we can provide.”

New technology, like much of that developed at United Defense, “allow us to redefine war on our terms, which makes it more likely the world will be more free and more peaceful,” Bush said.

One United Defense product, the Hercules tank recovery system, was used in pulling down a larger-than-life statue of Saddam Hussein in Baghdad — an act that was broadcast repeatedly around the world.

“That meant more to the Iraqi people than you can possibly imagine,” Bush said to the company’s employees. “It was a symbol of their future, a future based upon something that we hold dear to our hearts,

... a future based on freedom.”

Major combat may be past, but U.S. forces and experts are still working to “exploit” hundreds of suspected chemical or biological weapons sites. “Listen, this guy (Saddam Hussein) spent years and years and years of hiding weapons from weapons inspectors,” the president said. “It’s going to take time, but the world will see the truth.”

America’s efforts all point back to instilling peace and freedom around the world. “We believe in the peace, in keeping the peace. And the best way to make the world more peaceful, and the best way to fight hatred, hateful ideologies oftentimes found in corners of the world, is to promote freedom,” Bush said. “Free people are less likely to hate. Free people are more likely to focus on a hopeful future.

“We love freedom in America. It’s ingrained in our soul. We also understand the habits of freedom are more likely to make the world a more peaceful and hopeful place,” he continued. “We will stay in Iraq until it is free. And we will stay to make sure the foundations for freedom are real and solid.”

FREEDOM'S VOICES

There but for the grace of God go I

Just my Opinion

Sgt. W. Cullen James
11th Public Affairs
Detachment



Having almost unfettered Internet access is a blessing and a curse.

On the one hand, I can keep in touch in with family and friends easily and share images from home. I don't have to fight with phones and wait in lines to find out how my kids are doing. I don't have to wait weeks for the mail to get photos.

On the other, in the fight against boredom, one can stumble across some disturbing things. Message boards are wonderful creations in that they allow us to share thoughts and opinions with a varied and as sundry folks who are out there. However, I recently came across some thoughts and opinions that I found mildly disturbing.

I can't believe how lucky we are here to have so much convenience available. We sometimes forget just how lucky we are. To the point of arrogance.

It's this arrogance that's frightening. And I don't necessarily mean we as military men and women. It can be applied to a lot of American's. Whether or not anything we're doing in the world is ethically right or wrong is a moot point as far as a

military member is concerned. We are resigned and designed to do as we're told.

So, on that thought, going into some message boards with an "all is right with the world" point of view, I was shocked to encounter many of the different country's points of view. Not that I didn't know other country's were opposed to many of our actions, but the fact that many of the American responses were so less than kind.

From what I have read, there's a vast majority of folks out there who can justify our actions simply because we are America. Not that I don't think we haven't had sufficient cause for what we've done on the world scene, but I think we may be crossing a dangerous line in some respects. Justification in keeping our homes and families safe is one thing, but justification just because we simply are the US of A smacks of imperialism.

The same kind of imperialistic ideology that we fought for independence from at the start of our great nation.

I consider myself patriotic. I feel pride every day because of the uniform I wear. But, in reading some of the thoughts expressed around the net, I truly fear for the mindset of our nation.

While I believe in our cause and will support to the death anyone's right to voice any opinion, I do think we may want to reconsider the point of view behind some of our zealotry before it's too late.

STREET TALK

How has the recent weather affected your job?



"We work in a hanger so the wind blows constantly. The vehicles are dirty so the wind blows dirt all over the place — in our eyes, mouth, nose and ears."

Airman 1st Class Logan Baker

455th Ex. Ops. Grp.
Vandenberg AFB, Calif.



"It hasn't affected us much lately. The rain affects us more than the wind."

Pfc. Juan Hernandez

Co. C, 2-505th PIR
Fort Bragg, N.C.



"It affects our equipment creating false readings for target acquisitions."

Staff Sgt. Robert Ramos

Batt. E, 101st Field Artillery
Rehoboth, Mass.



"It has stopped supplies from coming in."

Capt. Stephen Fleming

427th Medical Logistics
Atlanta, Ga.

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Entertainment

May 3, 2003

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Bagram, Afghanistan



Flat Stanley is the newest member of Camp Stronghold Freedom, Uzbekistan.

New troop provides 'flat-out' support

Story and photos by
Spc. Travis Edwards
1st COSCOM PAO

CAMP STRONGHOLD FREEDOM, Uzbekistan — Flat Stanley, the newest member of Camp Stronghold Freedom, Karshi-Khanabad, Uzbekistan, is very popular among deployed U.S. Army soldiers. Stanley is 12 inches tall, wears a paper uniform and weighs less than an ounce.

"Flat Stanley is a cut-out doll that children create and send to people all across the world through the mail," said Army reservist Sgt. Anita Guilfoyle-Pace, 375th Quartermaster Company Detachment, Logistical Task Force 46th.

"When someone receives Flat Stanley they're supposed to take pictures with him and return the photos back to the sender," she added.

"My son misses me very much. This is his way of keeping an eye on me," said Guilfoyle-Pace. "He was so excited when I called and told him Stanley was here."

Flat Stanley was sent to Camp Stronghold Freedom by Guilfoyle-Pace's son, Brandon, from Faith Christian School in Osawatomie, Kansas.

See **STANLEY**, Page B3

Married pilots grow closer through deployment

By Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Deployments are a strain on a marriage; not having time with your spouse can be difficult on both parties. Two pilots deployed here don't have the stain of separation, but there are other problems they deal with.

Capt. Deborah Hayes and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jeremiah Hayes are deployed together here. Both are stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C. and according to Deborah, they were able to deploy together through luck and a supportive chain of command.

The couple married in June after approximately nine months of dating. They met in flight school, where they were "stick-buddies," meaning they were two students assigned to one instructor.

Jeremiah wanted to be a helicopter pilot since he was three, while Deborah became interested and thought she'd give it a try. They both think fate brought them together.

"Everything happens for a reason. Meeting him was definitely meant to be," said Deborah.

Jeremiah agrees.

"God brought us together. I have no doubt in my mind."

Here, Deborah is the assistant operations officer for Task Force Angel while Jeremiah is a CH-47 Chinook pilot. At Fort Bragg, the couple is in separate units so they appreciate being able to deploy together.

For Deborah, this is her second tour here. She deployed in August for four months without her husband. Upon returning to Fort Bragg, she changed units and ended up deploying in early January, with her husband deploying a few weeks later.

Both feel being here together has brought a better understanding of what the

See **PILOTS**, Page B3



Music Notes (Compiled from MTV.com)

Murder Inc. Probe Leads To Arrest, Alleged Ties To 50 Cent Shooting



Murder Inc.'s Irv Gotti

More than four months after federal investigators searched the New York offices of Murder Inc. Records, an arrest has been made in connection with their findings and newly unsealed court documents have revealed just what suspicions prompted the raid.

Last week, following the stakeout of a house in Encino, California, U.S. Marshals arrested Dexter Ottley, Murder Inc.'s director of radio promotions, and charged him with possession of a firearm by a felon. Also arrested at the time was Murder Inc. artist Caddillac Tah, who was not charged and was later released.

But while Ottley may be the only person arrested from the Murder Inc. family thus far, he might not be the last. In a 32-page affidavit filed in U.S. District Court in January, an IRS special agent details some of the evidence that feds have compiled in their ongoing investigation of convicted drug lord Kenneth "Supreme" McGriff and his relationship with Murder Inc.

The document charges that McGriff, who has a storied past as the leader of infamous New York drug cartel the Supreme Team, is the "true owner" of Murder Inc., while CEO Irv Gotti is merely the "public face" of the highly successful label. Supporting that theory are allegations that McGriff was paid by Murder Inc. under a false name, that he conducted illegal activity using Murder Inc. travel funds and a Def Jam two-way pager, and that McGriff was directly involved in the 2000 shooting of rapper 50 Cent, who is described as having written "a song exposing McGriff's criminal activities."

The court affidavit was filed in order to

get permission to freeze McGriff's business accounts. The investigation of McGriff and Murder Inc. is still ongoing and neither McGriff nor Gotti has been charged with anything.

Ol' Dirty Bastard Now Dirt McGirt, Signs To Roc-A-Fella

NEW YORK — Hours after being released from a mental facility Thursday (May 1), the artist formerly known as Ol' Dirty Bastard and Big Baby Jesus announced that he's signed with Roc-A-Fella Records and has chosen a new nickname, Dirt McGirt.

Roc-A-Fella CEO Damon Dash, Dirty and Mariah Carey, who "came as a friend" to show support, all entered the press conference at Manhattan's Rihga Royal Hotel smiling. Dirty's was extra bright as he sported a new gold tooth. Dash told everyone in attendance that he was there to announce the "evolution of an empire."

"For the last seven or eight years, Jay-Z's been doing what he's doing, [Beanie Sigel], the whole crew. Now it's time to evolve," Dash said. "It's time to do bigger things and touch everyone. We want to take over the whole world, the whole planet."

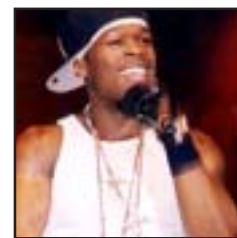
"Any opportunity I see, when I see a good person, when I see someone that's talented and about their business, I couldn't care less what anybody else says about him," Dash continued, referring to ODB. "All I know is what I see. He's consistently done it, entertained us on every level, and all we wanna do at the Roc is give him love and help him get where he's got to go."

Dash then presented Dirty with a platinum Roc-A-Fella chain and pendant. "He couldn't come home without that," Dash said.

"Yeah, yeah, yeah, I'm happy to be here,"

Dirty told the crowd, smiling and rocking a brown and beige sweat suit from his new clothing line. "I didn't think I was gonna touch no more microphones. ... I'm looking forward to a future with Roc-A-Fella."

50 Cent And Jay-Z Announce Roc The Mic Tour Dates



50 Cent

Now that Jay-Z and 50 Cent have all their logistical bases covered, they'll be ready to hit the road together in less than two months.

On Thursday Def Jam released the tour dates for their Roc the Mic Tour, which will kick off on June 25 at Hartford, Connecticut's ctnow.com Meadows Music Centre.

The tour, which will include different lineups of opening acts such as Missy Elliott, Busta Rhymes, Fabolous, Sean Paul, Snoop Dogg and Lil' Mo, ends August 5 at the Hi-Fi Buys Amphitheatre in Atlanta.

In the meantime, 50 will continue on his own road show. The Queens rhymesmith is hitting up theaters with the Clipse until the middle of this month, and then he'll head overseas with Eminem for a few dates before he and Hova kick things off.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

There is no movie tonight. Join the MWR crew for a Latino Dance Party at 1630Z.

Tommorw's movie: 1530Z at the MWR building: "White Oleander." A teenager journeys through a series of foster homes after her mother goes to prison for committing a crime of passion.



PILOTS, from Page B1

other went through while Deborah was here in August.

"I understand both sides now," said Jeramiah. "I understand what she went through the first time she was here."

"I'm in his shoes now, since I'm in operations (and not flying missions) I understand more what he went through when I was here," said Deborah.

Being here together may seem easy, but they say they have their own problems being deployed together.

"Family at home doesn't know what we do here on a daily basis, but we know what the other does. I know there is a threat to aviation. I had to listen over the radio to an emergency landing he had to do. We don't take each other for granted – being here and seeing the situations the other has to encounter," said Deborah.

Even knowing there is a threat, Deborah keeps her cool and tries not to worry.

"With everything there is a degree of risk. I know he is well trained, the people he flies with are professional, they are top-notch. I know I don't need to worry," she said.

Another difficulty in being deployed together is maintaining a professional relationship when around one another.

"We are very scrutinized. We are married and we are officers. We are observed a lot more than you would think," said Jeramiah. "It's difficult to fill the husband role when we're expected to act just like any other professional officers."

Deborah echoed his sentiment.

"Being that we are both officers, our first priority is conducting ourselves as officers. The hardest thing is working with each other on a professional level."

Jeramiah finds it difficult not to be able to fill the husband and wife roles.

"We are constantly in the same place, but we're not able to be our usual married selves. I can't give her a hug if she is having a bad day, we share a tent with six to eight other people so we have no privacy," he said. "We still expect each other to fill the husband/wife needs, but we are not able to."

"As a husband, I want to protect my wife, but because she is a captain I have to let her fight her own battles," he added.

Even with the problems they have here, Deborah and Jeramiah know they are lucky to be together.

"We count our blessings," she said. "We take advantage of the opportunities we have to be together because we know so many families are separated – not just husbands



Photo by Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

Capt. Deborah Hayes and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jeramiah Hayes share a moment during their work day.

and wives, but fathers, mothers and children. We take advantage of the time we are able to spend together."

"The best thing is the fact that we are together. This is not paradise, but it's a lot more than other people have out here," said Jeramiah.

The Hayes' put a lot of faith in God for keeping their marriage strong.

"Our faith in God has kept our marriage strong," Deborah said. "Our faith here has grown stronger and that is the foundation of our relationship."

STANLEY, from Page B1

There, Brandon and his Kindergarten class, created and colored Flat Stanley specifically for Guilfoyle-Pace and her fellow soldiers.

"I just wanted to see where my mom is working and send her a friend for until she comes home," said six-year-old Brandon.

Flat Stanley stays in the Supply Support Activity yard with Guilfoyle-Pace and her unit, the 375th Qm. Co. Det.

"He gets out and sees more than we do," said Staff Sgt. Dale Schmidt, the stock control noncommissioned officer in charge.

"When the local Uzbeks come to the SSA to order supplies we introduce them to Flat Stanley," said Lt. Heather Kuhn, commander, 375th Qm. Co. Det., "He has even helped international relations in his own little way."



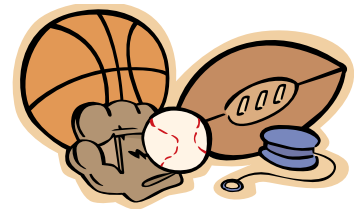
Photo by Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

So long, friend...

Gojo, a four year old German Shepard, inspects a container to find a pebble size piece of TNT during training. Gojo was killed while mine clearing recently. He was sniffing an area when there was an explosion. No one was injured and a replacement dog will be here in two to three weeks. The reason dogs are used in mine clearing is to ensure safety of humans. The incident is under investigation.

Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



New test helps determine readiness

Concussions are a fact of life in automobile racing, where crashing into a concrete wall at high speed is relatively common.

Until now, one of the most difficult decisions facing doctors who treat race drivers for concussions has been knowing when a driver is well enough to return to a race car.

Now, thanks to Mark Lovell, director of the Center for Sports Medicine Concussion Program at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, there is a new, important tool.

It's called ImPACT, which stands for Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing. That's a formal way of describing a computer test devised by Lovell and Pittsburgh Steelers team neurosurgeon Dr. Joseph Maroon, in conjunction with several of Lovell's former colleagues at Henry Ford Health System in Detroit.

"Before we had tests like ImPACT, a lot of it came down to what the athlete told you," Lovell said. "You'd ask: 'Do you have a headache? Do you feel nauseous? Do you feel dizzy?' They generally say 'no' to all of those.

"One thing we know about athletes is they're very, very competitive. So we weren't absolutely positive we were always being given an accurate picture of how they were feeling. With a test like ImPACT, you can't cheat it."

The test, which takes 22 minutes the first time and a little less in subsequent uses, measures memory, reaction time, mental speed, information processing, anticipation time and other functions of the brain affected by concussions.

The idea is to administer the test while the subject is healthy — at the start of the season, preferably. That sets a "baseline" with which to measure further tests after a head injury.

"I started doing this stuff with the NFL back in the late '80s, doing concussion management work," Lovell said. "I realized a long time ago, along with several of my colleagues, that the only way we were going to make this type of evaluation practical was to create computer software for it so it could be used not just in professional athletes but also at the college and high school level."

Lovell said the ImPACT test is used by about half the teams in the NFL "and the rest are kind of transitioning to it." He said the NHL has been studying it and is using what Lovell calls a "paper-and-pencil approach" that he developed years ago. ImPACT is already in use in 350 high schools and 100 colleges.

Lovell said nearly 7,000 people have taken the test, including 600 to 700 who have taken it again after having concussions.

In auto racing, CART has been using the test since last year, all the Indy Racing League drivers will take the test as part of their physical for entering the May 25 Indianapolis 500, Formula One has the software and plans to implement the program as soon as

possible, and NASCAR is studying it.

Gary Nelson, managing director of competition for NASCAR, said some drivers are using it on a volunteer basis.

"As with everything, we take a look at it and try to understand everything about it and move in a conservative way," said Nelson, who works out of NASCAR's new research and development center. "But it certainly looks promising and, if we feel it will serve a purpose, we will recommend it to our teams."

Other series have not taken such a cautious approach.

"We have a database on our drivers," said Dr. Steve Olvey, director of medical affairs for CART. "The IRL's all in there, and Formula One is going to start that very soon and we'll have that in the database, too."

Olvey said concussions have been a big problem in auto racing for a long time.

"We had no good way of really looking at it and judging who had too many concussions and who was in trouble because of it," Olvey said.



Steve Park prepares to strap on his helmet prior to happy hour practice at California Speedway.

NASCAR looking for title sponsor

FONTANA, Calif. — Negotiations are under way with several companies as possible successors to Winston as title sponsor of NASCAR's top series.

Names regularly mentioned in recent speculation include McDonald's, Coca-Cola, Anheuser-Busch and VISA.

That speculation has been growing since January, when R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. said it had given NASCAR permission to look for a new sponsor for the Winston Cup Series.

Brian France, senior vice president of NASCAR and the grandson of the founder of the sanctioning body, confirmed Thursday to a group of Associated Press sports editors at a meeting in New York that the sanctioning body was in negotiations with several companies. France declined to identify them.

NASCAR spokesman Jim Hunter, at California Speedway for Sunday's Auto Club 500, said Friday that France and COO George Pyne are "leading the effort and being very diligent with the

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companies to make sure they understand the scope of this sponsorship.

And they are being very diligent in getting a company that fits.

"This is a once-in-25-30-year deal."

As of now, RJR remains involved in the sport. The company signed a five-year contract extension in July that runs through the 2007 season. The deal has been estimated to pay NASCAR anywhere from \$30 million to \$60 million annually.

The company has been title sponsor for NASCAR's top series since 1971.

Many credit Winston with building NASCAR to its current status as a mainstream sport, establishing a points fund and pumping millions of dollars into the sport.

This year's season-ending points fund is \$17 million, with the Winston Cup champion getting \$4.25 million.

"There is a lot of interest," Hunter said. "They're going through everything they can to be sure we get a company that will be with us as long or longer than Winston has. We're looking for a partner."

Solution from Friday's Percussion Session Crossword in the *Freedom Watch*

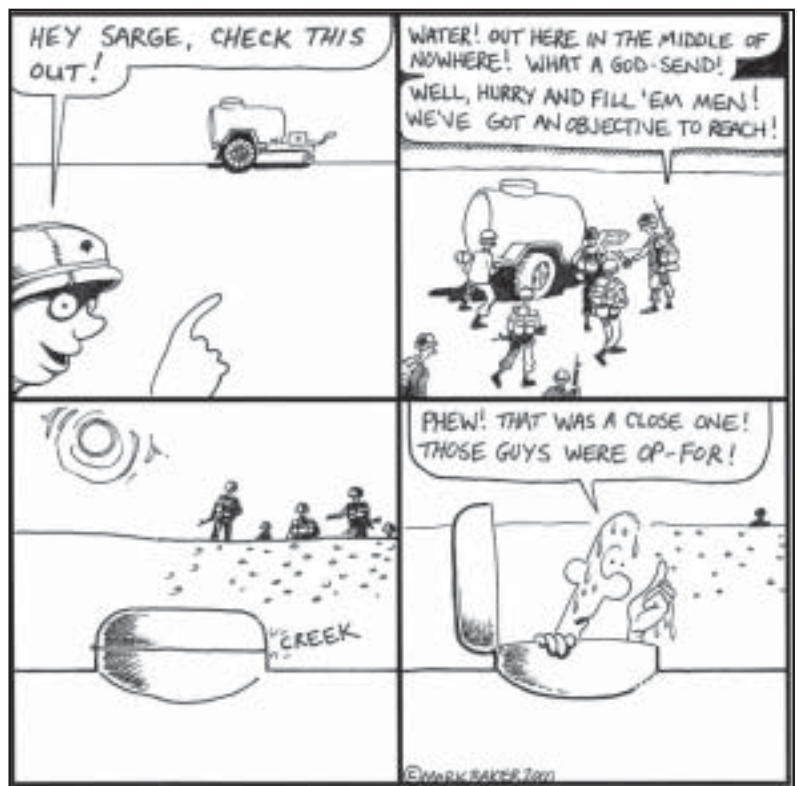
(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)



2 Panther 10k 23 May

Sign up at Panther UMT

Free t-shirt for
first 200 to sign up
Registration begins at
0100Z at the
Infantry Barracks
POC CH Petros and
Sgt. Haney
582-0505



By Mark Baker

Pvt. Murphy's Law

Kandahar chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

Monday

- ❖ 1130Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel choir practice

Tuesday

- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox/Catholic Bible study
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

Thursday

- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

Friday

- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

Saturday

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice

Bagram chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

Monday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers

Tuesday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

Thursday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

Friday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

Saturday

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice
- ❖ 1500Z — Rosary and prayers

K2 chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0330Z — Liturgical service
- ❖ 0430Z, 1200Z — General protestant service
- ❖ 0600Z — Roman Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1300Z — Latter Day Saints

Monday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass

Tuesday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Midweek Praise service

Thursday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass

Friday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study

Saturday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1200Z — Roman Catholic Mass

CJCMOTF chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0630Z — Nondenominational service













Tuesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Catholic service (every other Tuesday)

Wednesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study



	Bagram	K2	Kabul	KAF
W Today				
	Hi — 64F Lo — 46F	Hi — 66F Lo — 35F	Hi — 63F Lo — 45F	Hi — 79F Lo — 48F
e Sunday				
	Hi — 68F Lo — 45F	Hi — 70F Lo — 34F	Hi — 66F Lo — 43F	Hi — 84F Lo — 52F
a Monday				
	Hi — 72F Lo — 46F	Hi — 82F Lo — 35F	Hi — 70F Lo — 45F	Hi — 82F Lo — 52F

KMTC chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0430Z — Protestant Service
- ❖ 0530Z — Roman Catholic Mass/Eucharist
- ❖ 0630Z — Latter Day Saints
- ❖ 1630Z — Protestant Service

Wednesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible Study

Friday

- ❖ 1530Z — Thank God It's Friday fellowship and singing

All events are held in FOB195 Chapel/Conference Room area.